



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

May 7, 2010

Dear Superintendent,

Last May, I launched my Free Digital Textbooks Initiative, the first of its kind in the nation, to provide California's students and teachers with high-quality open educational resources. These digital texts, freely available for classrooms, have the potential to be more interactive and cost districts less, a win-win that allows educators to engage a new generation of tech-savvy students.

As part of my initiative, digital resources – submitted by textbook publishers, classroom teachers and other experts – are reviewed against California's world-class academic content standards to give teachers confidence that these materials are appropriate to be used in our classrooms. More than 30 textbooks have been reviewed and are ready for use in the following high school courses:

Mathematics: Geometry, algebra II, trigonometry, probability and statistics, and calculus

Science: Earth science, biology and life science, chemistry, and physics

History/Social Science: United States history

These resources can be used in a number of exciting ways. They are downloadable and can be projected on a screen or viewed on a computer or handheld device. They can also be printed chapter by chapter or bound for classroom and home use. You can see reviews of these textbooks at <http://www.cln.org/fdti/>.

Over the coming months, I ask that you work with your board of education, teachers, parents and other stakeholders to put these materials to use in your classrooms for the 2010-11 academic year. By working together to promote the best materials, we can ensure that California continues to provide our students with a fantastic education.

Californians are the most innovative people in the world, and I know that you may have ideas about how we can better use technology to improve education in our state. To help my administration learn more about your district's technology initiatives, please complete a survey at <http://www.schoolfinder.ca.gov/DigitalTextbookSurvey/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger